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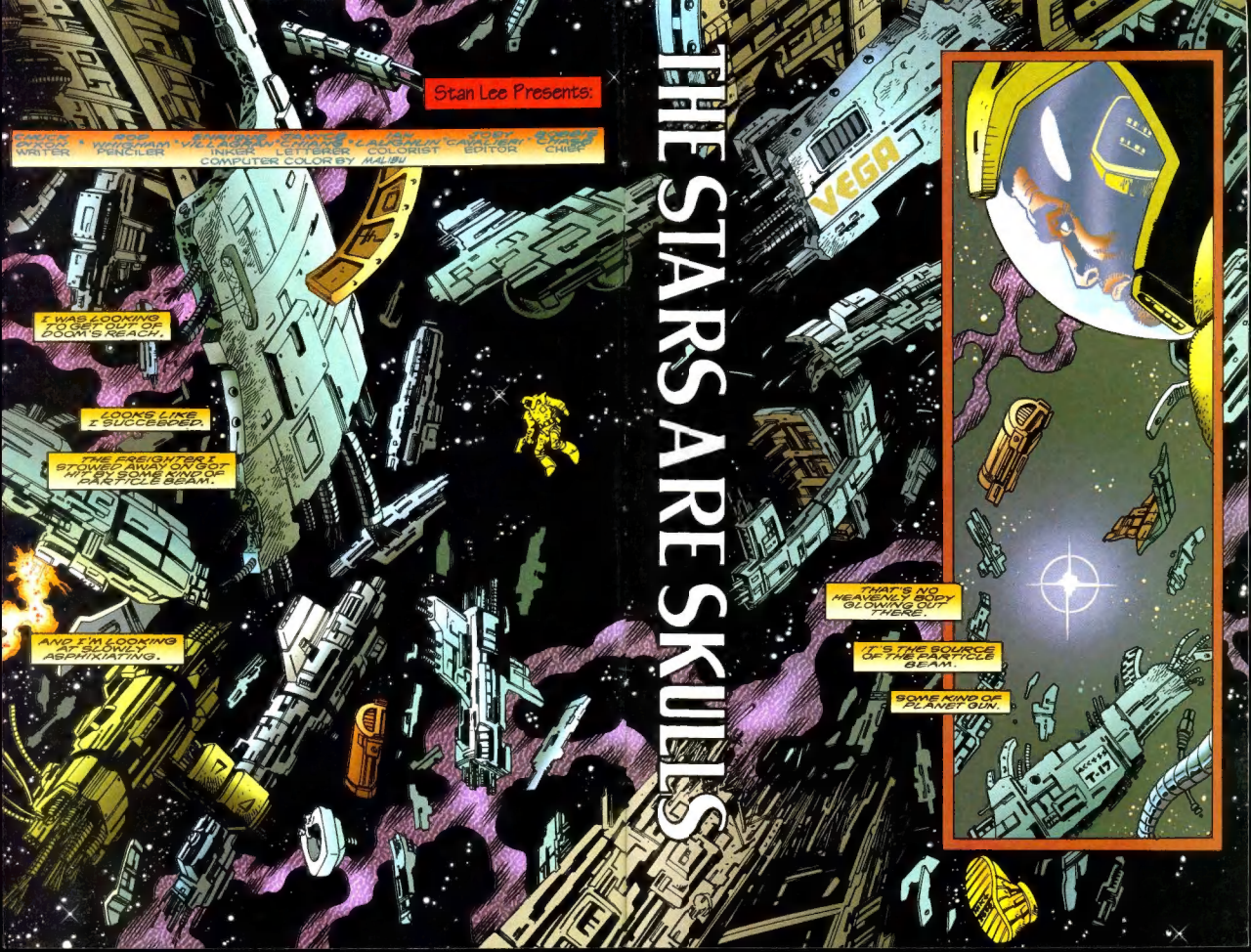

Stan Lee Presents:
CHRIS CLAREMONT WRITER
JOE WHITEHAM PENCILER
BRYNE & WILLIAMSON INKERS
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS LETTERER
COMPUTER COLOR BY MALIBU
JAY LAUGHLIN COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI EDITOR
ROBERT HARRAS CHIEF
THE STARS ARE SKULLS
I WAS LOOKING TO GET OUT OF DOOM'S REACH.
LOOKS LIKE I SUCCEEDED.
THE FREIGHTER I STOWED AWAY ON GOT HIT BY SOME SORT OF PARTICLE BEAM.
AND I'M LOOKING AT SLOWLY ASPHYXIATING.
VEGA
THAT'S NO HEAVENLY BODY GLOWING OUT THERE.
IT'S THE SOURCE OF THE PARTICLE BEAM.
SOME KIND OF PLANET GUN.

Scanned by Tato

THE FREIGHTER WASN'T ON ANY AUTHORIZED TRAJECTORY.
THE NEAREST SHIP IS THREE DAYS AWAY MINIMUM TRAVEL TIME.
NO GOOD TO ME EVEN IF THE FREIGHTER HAD GOTTEN OFF A DISTRESS CALL.
THE GUNSHIP IS THE ONLY SHIP IN THE VICINITY.
IT'S NOT COMING CLOSER AND IT'S AT LEAST A THOUSAND KLICKS OUT.
FOR SOME REASON IT'S STATIONARY.
POWER SURGE.
ENGINES SHUT DOWN.
OVERDUE FOR MAINTENANCE.
COULD YOU DO ME A FAVOR, COMPUTER?

COULD YOU SHUT UP?
ONLY ASSISTING WITH DIAGNOSTIC INFORMATION, VENDETTA.
I KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO DO, COMPUTER.
I HAVE TO REPLACE THIS RELAY THAT OUR LAST SHOT FRIED.
AND IF I DON'T DO IT WE'LL DRIFT AROUND THE SUN UNTIL THE END OF TIME...
VENDETTA...
CUT AUDIO NOW, COMPUTER.
I'M TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THESE SCHEMATICS AND GET THIS TUB OPERATIONAL!
AND I CAN'T DO IT WITH A LOT OF BACKJABBER!
DON'T BREATHE A WORD THROUGH YOUR DIGITIZER.
OR I STRIP YOU FOR PARTS.

YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY--KEEP IT TO YOURSELF.
BROADBEAM SCAN OF TARGET AREA 97% CERTAINTY OF PRESENCE OF ONE LIFEFORM.
MIGHT BE SOME TRAPPED ATMOSPHERE IN SOME OF THE LARGER PIECES OF DEBRIS.
NOT MUCH CHANCE OF THAT.
BUT MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE OF USE HERE.
A PULSE GUN MOUNTED TO THE HULL.
GUNSHIP'S STILL STATIONARY.
HAVE AN IDEA. A WILD, IMPOSSIBLE IDEA.

2099 BITMAPPED Reality Bytes

Hey Frantic Ones!

All right, it's not the most original opening for a Bullpen page. Except this month, "Frantic ones" refers to us!

Big Deal!

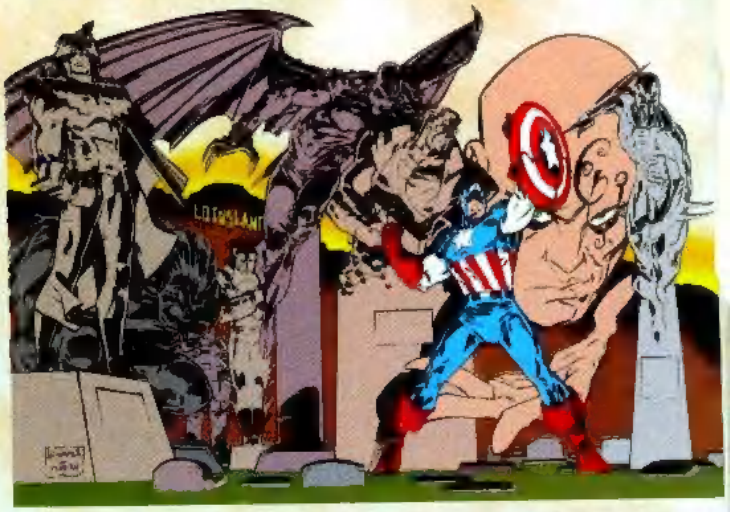
Well, it IS a big deal! Next month, the SPIDER-MAN MEETS SPIDER-MAN 2099 Bookshelf hits the racks! Peter, Rick and Al have collaborated on one of the most remarkable stories to come out of the Marvel 2099 universe since it was founded! Finally, we can tell you that it features a plethora of villains, including Venom and our own Vulture 2099 (making one of the most requested re-appearances in history!) If you've been a fan of SPIDER 2099 from the start, or even if you've been just admiring the book from afar, (and why wouldja wanna do that?), this special edition has everything!

Another Big Deal!

Oh yeah! Here's the cover to the SPIDER-MAN 2099 SPECIAL by the Bros. Hildebrandt; it's on sale this month! More about that below!

It's Always Darkest...

What's the recipe for any really exciting story? "things get bad, then things get worse!" In 2099 A.D. APOCALYPSE, events go from bad to worse at lightspeed (geez, what a telling point)! No less than four 2099 stalwarts fall in the heat of battle... and DOOM 2099 writer Warren Ellis took especial glee in concocting, shall we say, a final chapter for our comrades. You must see it!



...Before The Dawn!

The following month, thrill to 2099 A.D. GENESIS! This is the first ray of light in the 2099 Universe since the dark days of Doom's reign...and the even bleaker administration of (gulp) Captain America 2099! We've seen some pretty tough times in our little corner of the cosmos, but finally there's a new hope ahead! Not only do we fan the first flames of the newer world to come, but we sneak premiere the next generation of characters who will proudly carry the 2099 banner high for all to see!

That Is To Say-

We're introducing two new books at years end...or as we'd rather see it, years BEGINNING! FANTASTIC FOUR 2099...and (wait for it) X-NATION 2099! We'll say more about them next ish, but we'll leave you with this: wherever your expectations are...set them higher! (A fine philosophy of life too, no?)

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #37—A cast member dies and the mystery deepens...who is Venom 2099?

SPIDER-MAN 2099 SPECIAL #1—An extra-large edition jammed with three really cool Spidey sagas! Features the debut of Chameleon 2099...and the Man-Spider!

GHOST RIDER 2099 #19—A posse of new villains storm the Nell's favorite funnybook.

DOOM 2099 #35—Doom got his adamantium lanxide butt kicked...and now he's clawing his way back to the top! Nastier than he has any right to be!

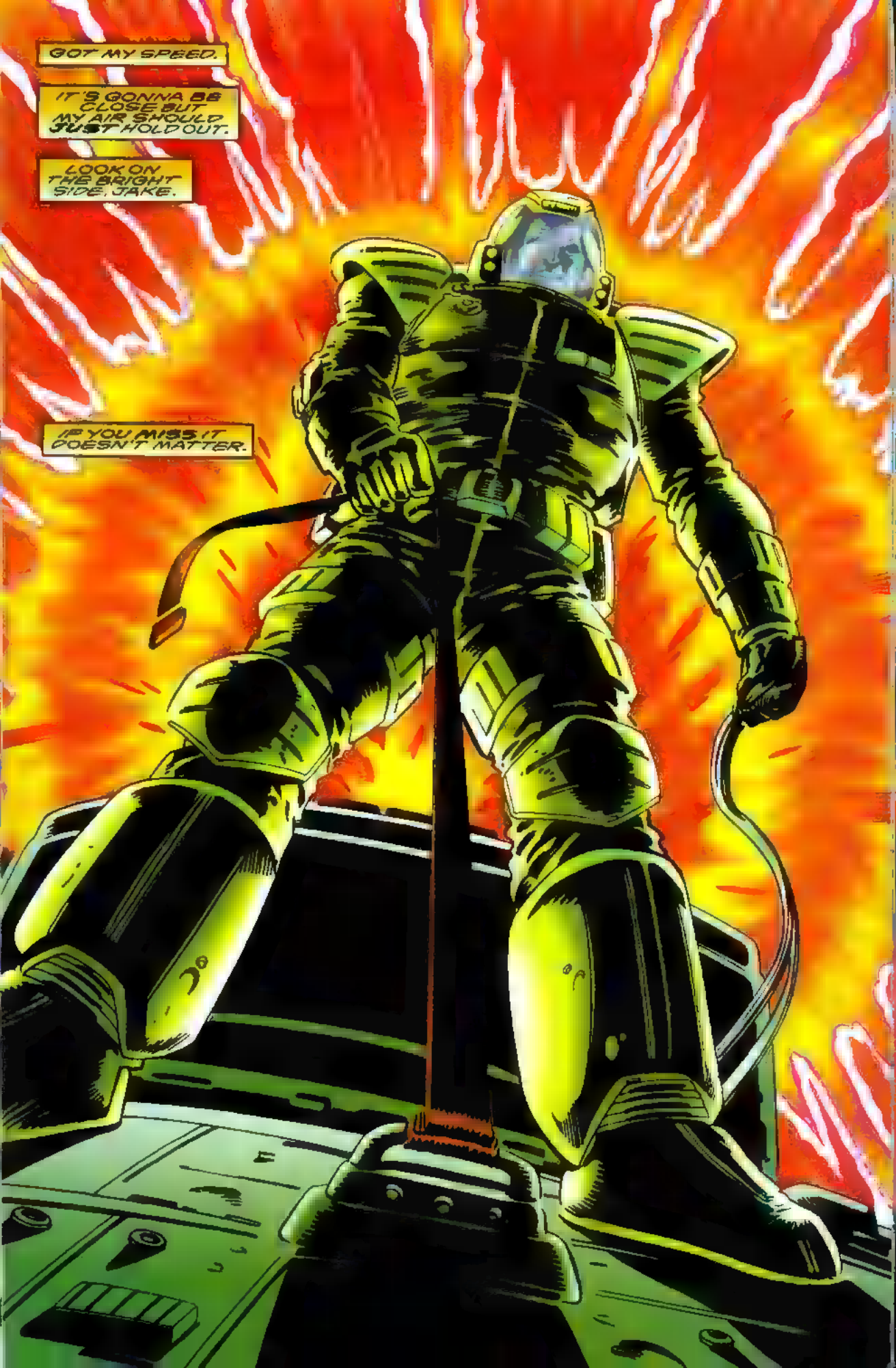
THE PUNISHER 2099 #34—Last stop on this bus!

X-MEN 2099 #26—The entire team as a strong, strident unit! The start of the X-NATION storyline! If you wanna be on board for the biggest event of the New Year...this is the place to start!

ENERGY NACELLES IN PLACE.
THE GUN IS INTACT.
TOOLS
SOMEONE SLACKED ON THE MAINTENANCE CREW.
HALF THE TOOLS I NEED ARE MISSING.
RACHET
JUST MEANS IT'LL TAKE A LITTLE LONGER, COST A LITTLE MORE AIR.
DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THAT GUNSHIP WILL STAY IN PLACE.
ONE THING AT A TIME, JAKE.

RELAY 17
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, COMPUTER.
SHIP DIAGNOSTICS DIDN'T TELL ME I'D HAVE TO REPAIR THIS MAG RELAY FROM OUTSIDE.
MAY I · · ·
I DIDN'T SAY AUDIO ON, 'PUTER.
I'M STILL AGGRAVATED WITH YOU.
EVA
I'LL JUST USE THE SHIP'S SYSTEM TO WALK ME THROUGH THIS.
CHANCE OF HUMAN SURVIVOR FROM PREVIOUS TARGET: 100%
SCANS READ 1 ACTIVE LIFEFORM
IT KNOWS WHEN TO KEEP ITS MOUTH SHUT!
JUST MY LUCK TO STEAL A PLANET GUN WITH A LIMITED WARRANTY.

CONNECTIONS ARE UNSTABLE. NO TIME FOR ANYTHING FANCY.
THIS SHOULD HOLD FOR A FEW SHOTS.
ALMOST OUT OF PUSH ON THIS HAND RETRO.
SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO TRIM MY TRAJECTORY.
THE ATTACKING SHIP IS 54 DEGREES FROM SOLAR NORTH.
THAT'S AS CLOSE A GUESS AS I GET.
IF I'M OFF BY AN INCH I'LL MISS BY A HUNDRED KLICKS.
NO SECOND SHOTS.
NO CALCULATING ODDS.
THEY'RE ALL BAD.
JUST FIRE UP AND LET HER RIP.
OFF


GOT MY SPEED.
IT'S GONNA BE CLOSE BUT MY AIR SHOULD JUST HOLD OUT.
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, JAKE.
IF YOU MISS IT DOESN'T MATTER.

ONE MORE PROBLEM.

WHAT IF THE GUNSHIP'S NOT THERE?

WHAT IF IT'S AN UNMANNED DRONE?

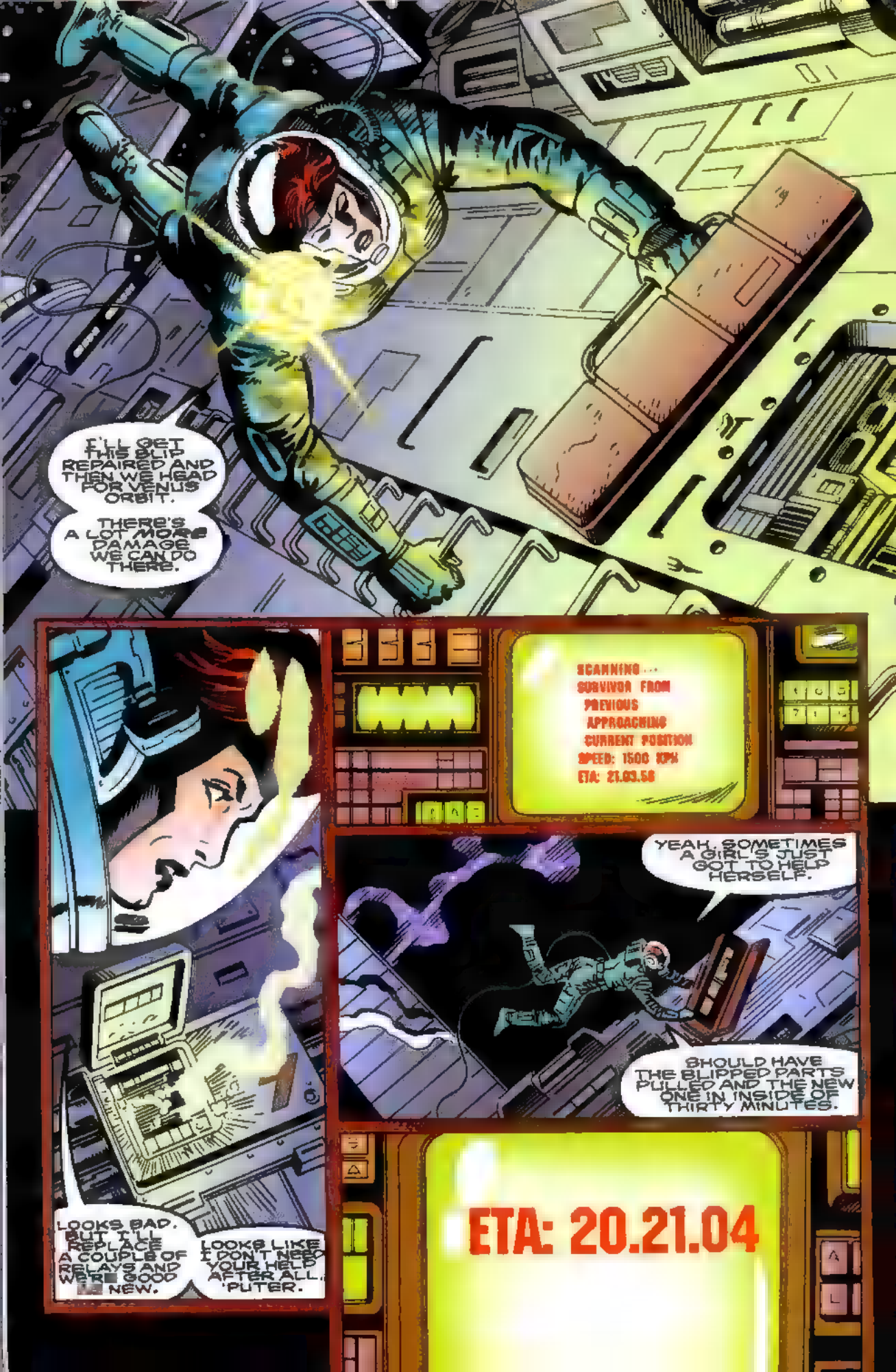
WITH NO LIFE SUPPORT.

YOU WORRY TOO MUCH, JAKE.

HAVE A LITTLE FAITH.

CENTRAL RELAY

LOW AIR PRESSURE INDICATOR'S BUZZING IN MY HELMET.
TANK'S TOOK A HIT.
REPAIR FOAM SEALS THE BREAK.
BUT TWENTY MINUTES OF OXY WE
OUT IN
THE VOID.
TWENTY MINUTES I CAN'T SPARE.
TWENTY MINUTES CHOPPED OFF THE END OF MY LIFE.
NOTHING TO DO BUT RIDE THIS TO THE END.


I'LL GET THIS BLIP REPAIRED AND THEN WE HEAD FOR VENUS ORBIT.
THERE'S A LOT MORE DAMAGE WE CAN DO THERE.
SCANNING ...
SURVIVOR FROM PREVIOUS APPROACHING
CURRENT POSITION
SPEED: 1500 KPH
ETA: 21.03.58
YEAH, SOMETIMES A GIRL'S JUST GOT TO HELP HERSELF.
SHOULD HAVE THE BLIPPED PARTS PULLED AND THE NEW ONE IN INSIDE OF THIRTY MINUTES.
LOOKS BAD. BUT I'LL REPLACE A COUPLE OF RELAYS AND WE'RE GOOD AS NEW.
LOOKS LIKE I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP AFTER ALL, 'PUTER.
ETA: 20.21.04

LOOKIN' GOOD.
AIR THINING
VISIONS SNAPPING IN AND OUT OF FOCUS.
COPPERY TASTE IN MY MOUTH.
NO FEAR.
NO PAIN.

THEY COME TO SEE ME DIE.
SOME LIVING.
SOME DEAD.
SOME NEITHER.
HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOTHING TO SEE THE END OF JAKE GALLOWS.

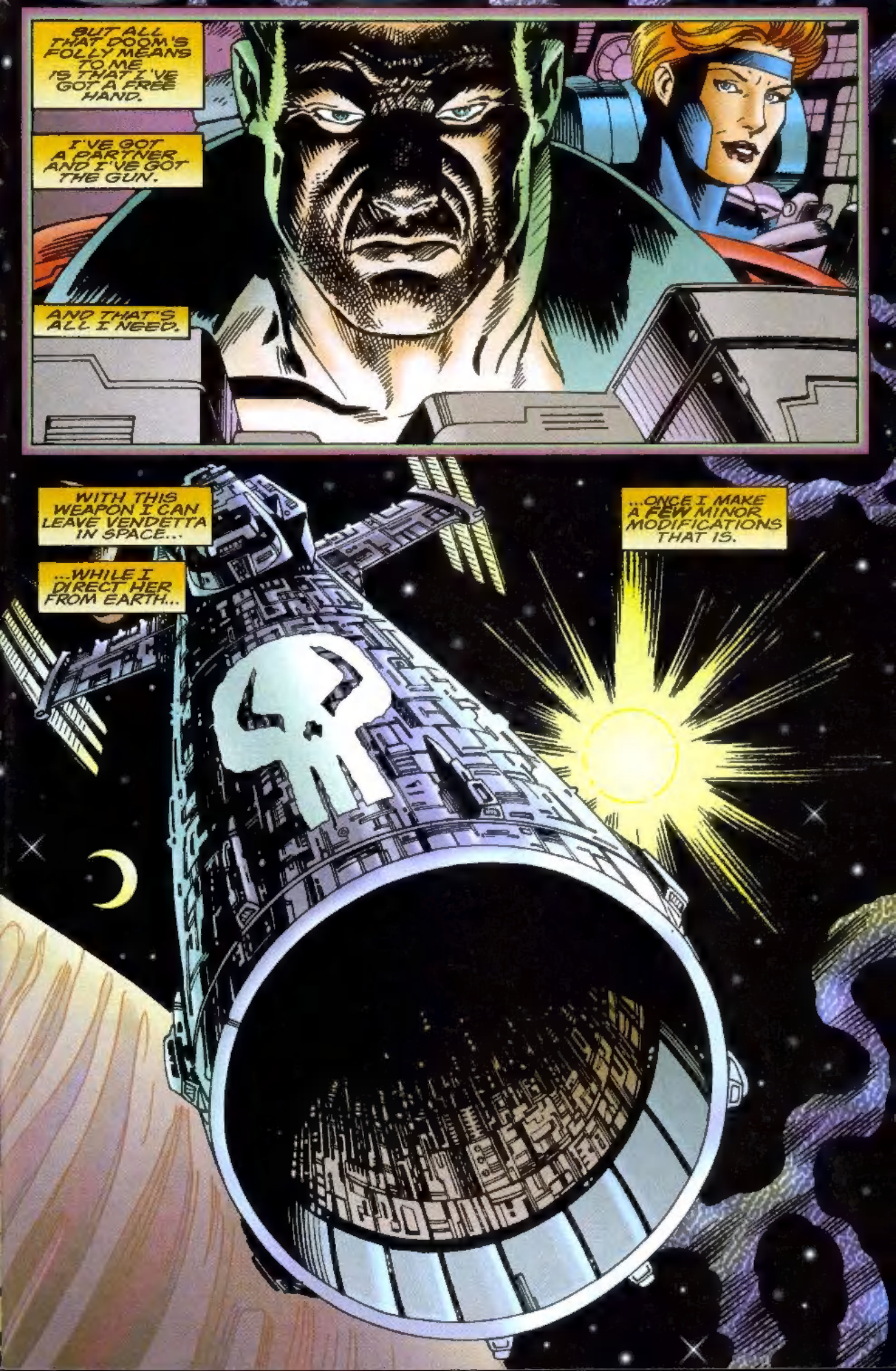
CLOSING IN.
MY PAST.
MY FUTURE.
THE LAST SECONDS OF THE END OF MY UNIVERSE.
AND IT ALL SEEMS SO FUNNY.
AT THE END.
THE END.
END.
NOT DARK.
LIGHT.
A NEW STAR.

THAT DONE IT.
COULDN'T DO BETTER THAN THAT COULD YOU, 'PUTER?
OH. I FORGOT.
AUDIO ON. YOU CAN TELL ME HOW BRILLIANT I AM.
HAZARD!
PROXIMITY WITHIN DISTANCE
HOW CLOSE?
CLOSING!

IT'S...
YOU...
GALLOWS...
WELCOME BACK.
NICE LITTLE WAGON YOU'VE GOT HERE.
DID YOU KNOW IT'S A SECRET PROTOTYPE BUILT BY ALCHEMAX? SO SECRET EVEN THEY FORGOT ABOUT IT?
YOU COME LOOKING FOR ME OUT HERE TO GIVE ME A HISTORY LESSON, GALLOWS?
I DIDN'T COME LOOKING FOR YOU AT ALL.

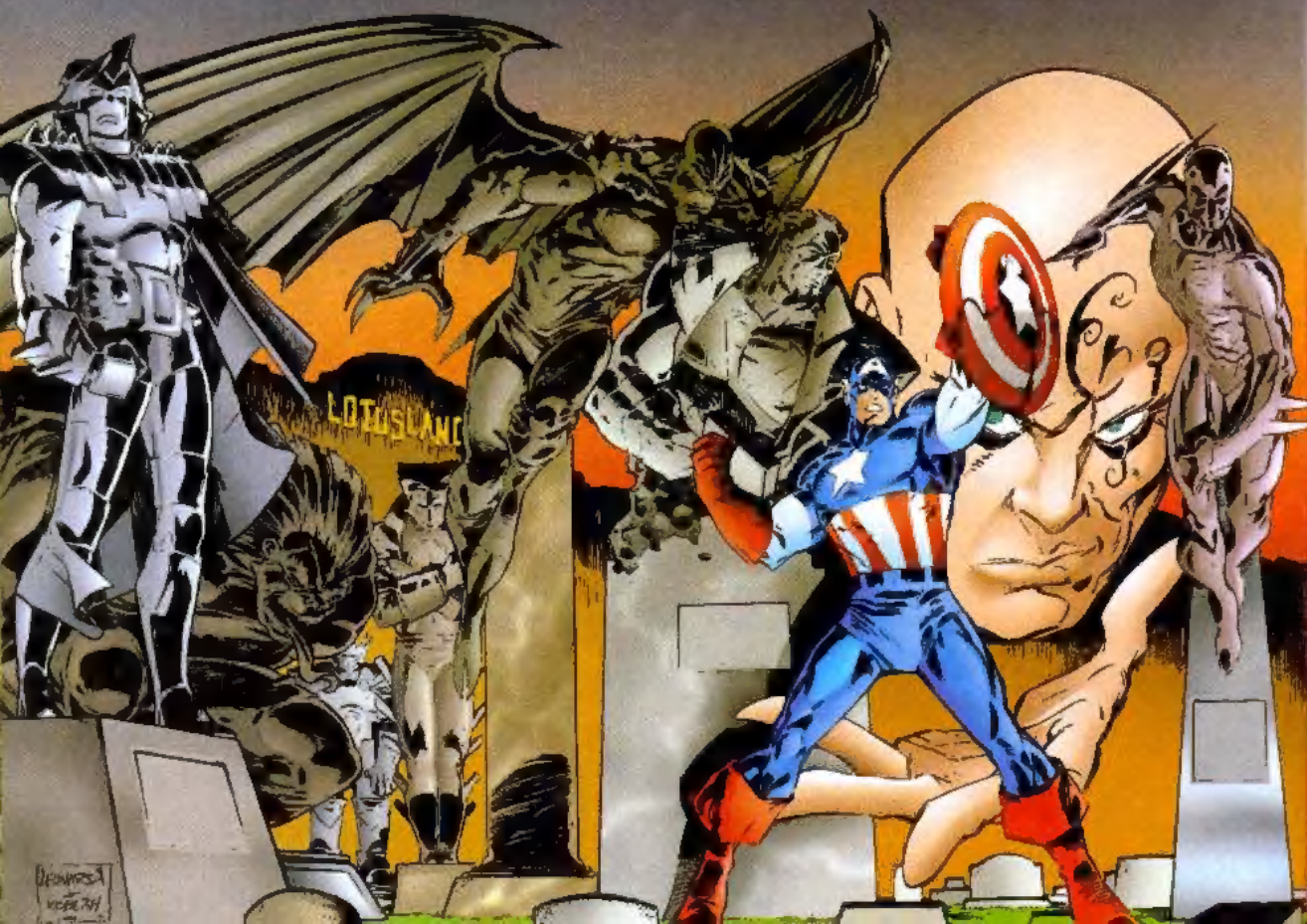
WE'RE STUCK TOGETHER. THE EARTH'S IN CHAOS AND NEITHER ONE OF US IS WELCOME THERE ANYWAY.
WE'RE EITHER PARTNERS OR...
OR WHAT?
OR YOU GO OUT AN AIRLOCK.
SO WHAT'S THIS PARTNERSHIP ABOUT?
LOTS OF CRIME STILL OUT THERE, AND WE'VE GOT THE BIGGEST GUN IN THE BYSTEM.
YOU TRACKING?
I'M TRACKING.

IN THE OUTER ORBITS THERE'S STILL SLAVERY. MEN CONSCRIPTED FOR PLANETEERING AND FORCED INTO MINE LABOR.
AND SLAPPED TOGETHER DICTATORSHIPS CREATED FROM COLONIES LONG CUT OFF FROM THEIR SPONSORS.
LAWLESS HIVES OF CRUELTY AND MALICE.
AND THE MANUFACTURE OF ILLEGAL STIMULANTS AND NEUROCOTICS STILL RAGES IN THE LANES BETWEEN THE WORLDS.
A WHOLE UNIVERSE OF BAD GUYS THINKING THE HEAT'S OFF NOW THAT THE HOMEWORLD'S OFFLINE.


BUT ALL THAT DOOM'S FOLLY MEANS TO ME IS THAT I'VE GOT A FREE HAND.
I'VE GOT A PARTNER AND I'VE GOT THE GUN.
AND THAT'S ALL I NEED.
WITH THIS WEAPON I CAN LEAVE VENDETTA IN SPACE...
...WHILE I DIRECT HER FROM EARTH...
...ONCE I MAKE A FEW MINOR MODIFICATIONS THAT IS.

To Be Continued In

2099 A.D. APOCALYPSE



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Do your duty for DOOM and your country at the following locations.
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http://tod.kicks-ass.net/forum